

STRANGE TALES

MARVEL COMICS GROUP™

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STRANGE TALES FEATURING:

# BROTHER VODOO

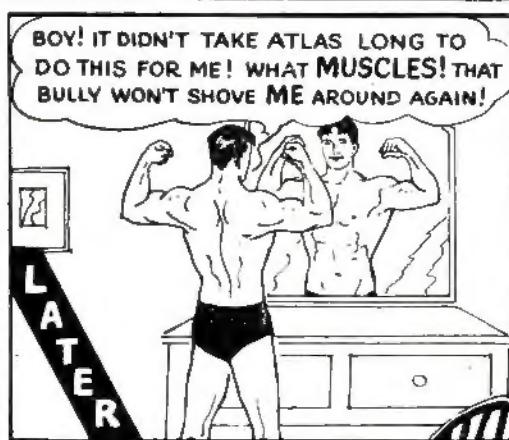
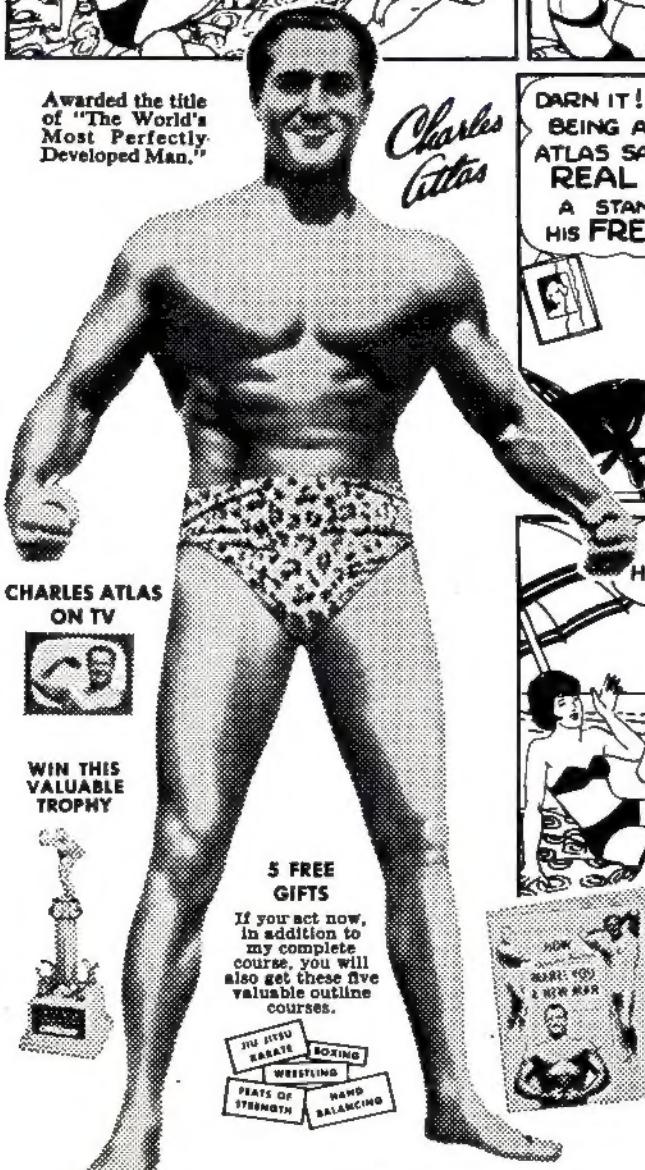
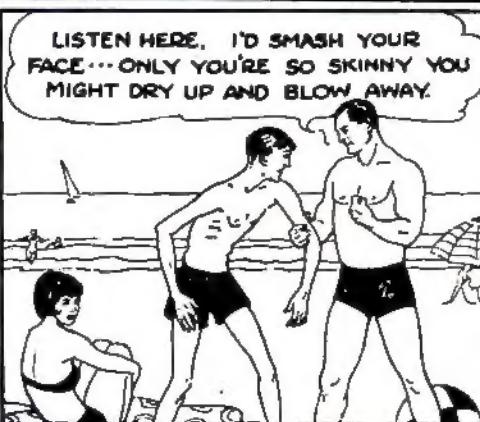
THE DEATH-CULT OF THE  
**DARK LORD!**

YOU ROBBED  
ME OF MY  
HUMAN  
SACRIFICE!

NOW YOU  
SHALL TAKE  
HER PLACE!!

TONIGHT--  
YOU  
**DIE!**

# THE INSULT THAT MADE A MAN OUT OF "MAC"



## Let Me PROVE I Can Make YOU A NEW MAN!

ARE you "fed up" with seeing the huskies walk off with the best of everything? Sick and tired of being soft, frail, skinny or flabby — only HALF ALIVE? I know just how you feel. Because I myself was once a puny 97-pound "runt." And I was so ashamed of my scrawny frame that I dreaded being seen in a swim suit.

### The Secret of How I Got My Build

Then I discovered a wonderful way to develop my body fast. It worked wonders for me — changed me from the scrawny "runt" I was at 17, into "The World's Most Perfectly Developed Man." And I can build up YOUR body the very same natural way — without weights, springs or pulleys. Only 15 minutes a day of pleasant practice — in the privacy of your room.

My "Dynamic-Tension" method has already helped thousands of other fellows become real he-men in double-

quick time. Let it help YOU. Not next month or next year — but Right NOW!

### "Dynamic-Tension" Builds Muscles FAST!

If you're like I was, you want a powerful, muscular, well-proportioned build you can be proud of any time, anywhere. You want the "Greek-God" type of physique that women rave about at the beach — the kind that makes other fellows green with envy.

### Mail Coupon Now for My 32-Page Illustrated Book

Mailing the coupon can be the turning point in your life. I'll send you a copy of my 32-page illustrated book, "How Dynamic-Tension Makes You a NEW MAN." Tells how and why my method works; shows many pictures proving what it has done for others. Don't delay. Mail coupon NOW. CHARLES ATLAS, Dept. 60N 115 E. 23rd St., New York, N.Y. 10010.

CHARLES ATLAS, Dept. 60 N  
115 East 23rd St., New York, N.Y. 10010

Dear Charles Atlas: Here's the kind of Body I Want:

(Check as many as you like)

- |                                                      |                                                                |
|------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Broader Chest and Shoulders | <input type="checkbox"/> More Energy and Stamina               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ironhard Stomach Muscles    | <input type="checkbox"/> More Magnetic Personality             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tireless Legs               | <input type="checkbox"/> More Weight—Solid—in the Right Places |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Slimmer Waist and Legs      |                                                                |

I enclose 10c. Please send me a copy of your famous book showing how "Dynamic-Tension" can make me a "new man." 32 Pages, crammed with photographs, answers to vital health questions, and valuable advice. This does not obligate me in any way.

Print Name..... Age.....

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City & State..... Zip Code.....

In England: Charles Atlas, 21 Poland St., London, W.1

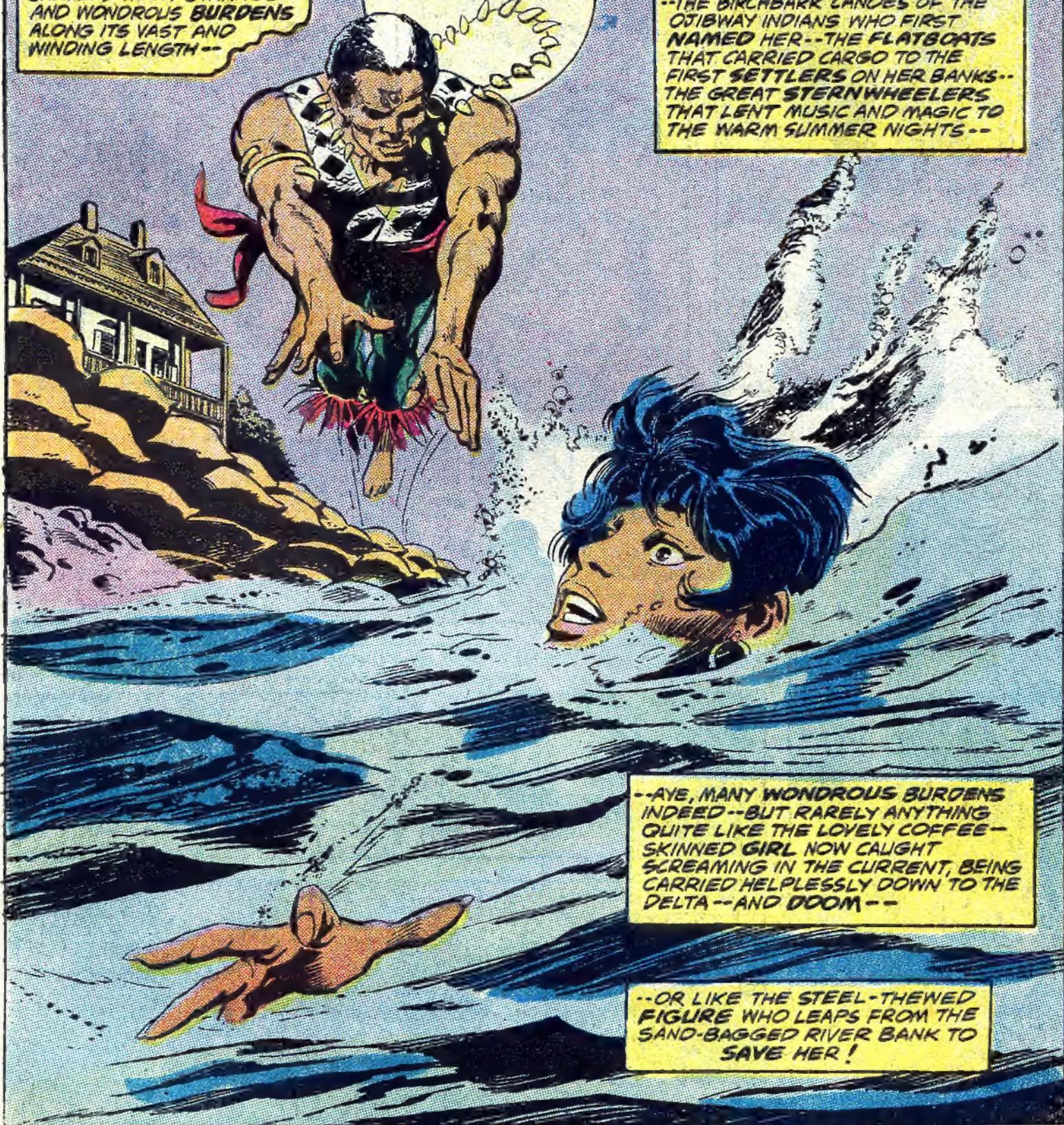
STAN LEE PRESENTS: **BROTHER VOODOO, THE MAN WHO LIVED TWICE!**™

LEN WEIN \* GENE COLAN \* DICK GIORDANO \* GLYNIS WEIN, COLORIST \* ROY THOMAS  
WRITER \* ARTIST \* DELINEATOR \* L.P. GREGORY, LETTERER \* EDITOR

# FIEND IN THE FOG

ON ITS TIME, THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER HAS CARRIED MANY STRANGE AND WONDROUS BURDENS ALONG ITS VAST AND WINDING LENGTH --

--THE BIRCHBARK CANOES OF THE OJIBWAY INDIANS WHO FIRST NAMED HER--THE FLATBOATS THAT CARRIED CARGO TO THE FIRST SETTLERS ON HER BANKS--THE GREAT STERNWHEELERS THAT LENT MUSIC AND MAGIC TO THE WARM SUMMER NIGHTS--



--AYE, MANY WONDROUS BURDENS INDEED--BUT RARELY ANYTHING QUITE LIKE THE LOVELY COFFEE-SKINNED GIRL NOW CAUGHT SCREAMING IN THE CURRENT, BEING CARRIED HELPLESSLY DOWN TO THE DELTA--AND DOOM--

--OR LIKE THE STEEL-THEWED FIGURE WHO LEAPS FROM THE SAND-BAGGED RIVER BANK TO SAVE HER !

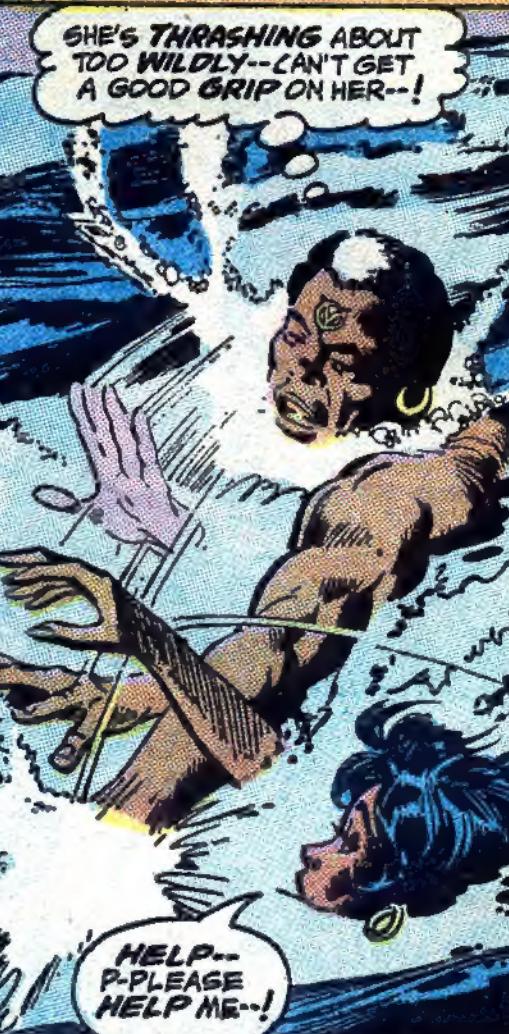
HIS NAME IS BROTHER VOODOO--  
AND HIS POWERFUL BODY CLEAVES  
THE CHURNING RIVER'S SURFACE  
LIKE A RAZOR-EDGED SCYTHE--



--THIEN, MUSCLES RIPPLING  
BENEATH HIS SKIN, HE PULLS  
HIMSELF THRU THE CHOPPY  
WATERS IN PURSUIT OF HIS  
STRUGGLING GOAL--



--ONLY TO FIND THAT HIS GOAL WILL  
NOT BE EASY TO ATTAIN...



THEN STOP STRUGGLING,  
GIRL--AND LOOK AT ME!

I SAID--  
LOOK  
AT ME!

FOR AN INSTANT,  
THE VOODOO  
MASTER'S EYES  
SEEM TO GLOW  
WITH AN  
UNNATURAL  
BRILLIANCE...

--BRILLIANCE THAT STEALS THE LIGHT FROM THE EYES OF THE PANIC-  
STRICKEN GIRL --



--UNTIL, AT LAST--

DIDN'T WANT TO PUT  
HER TO SLEEP LIKE  
THAT--BUT IT WAS  
THE ONLY WAY TO  
SAVE HER.

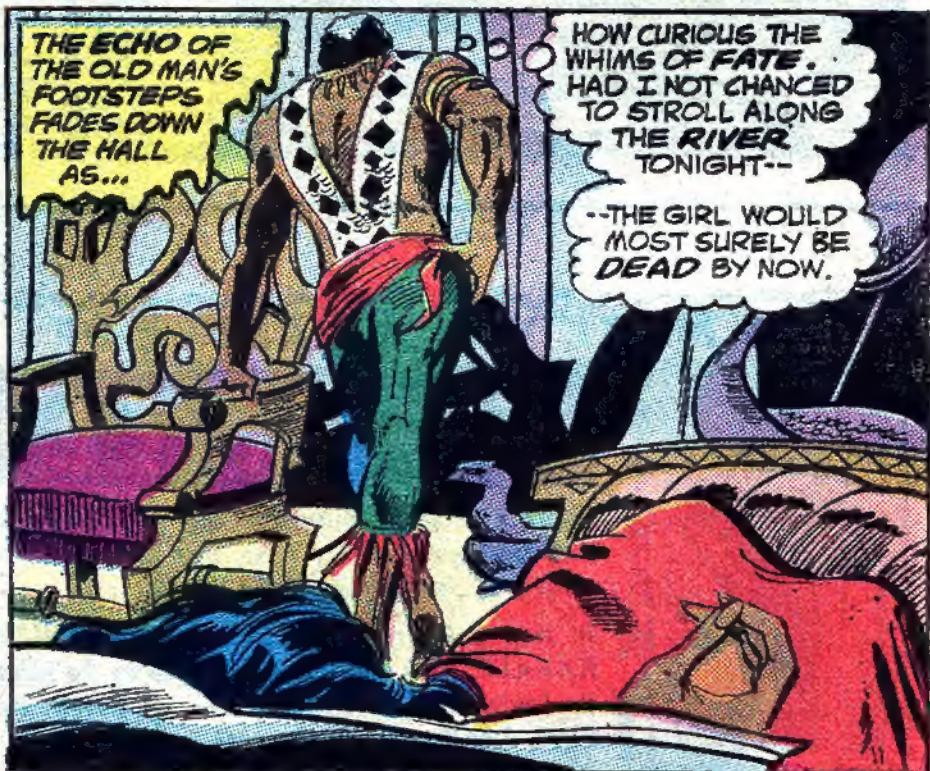
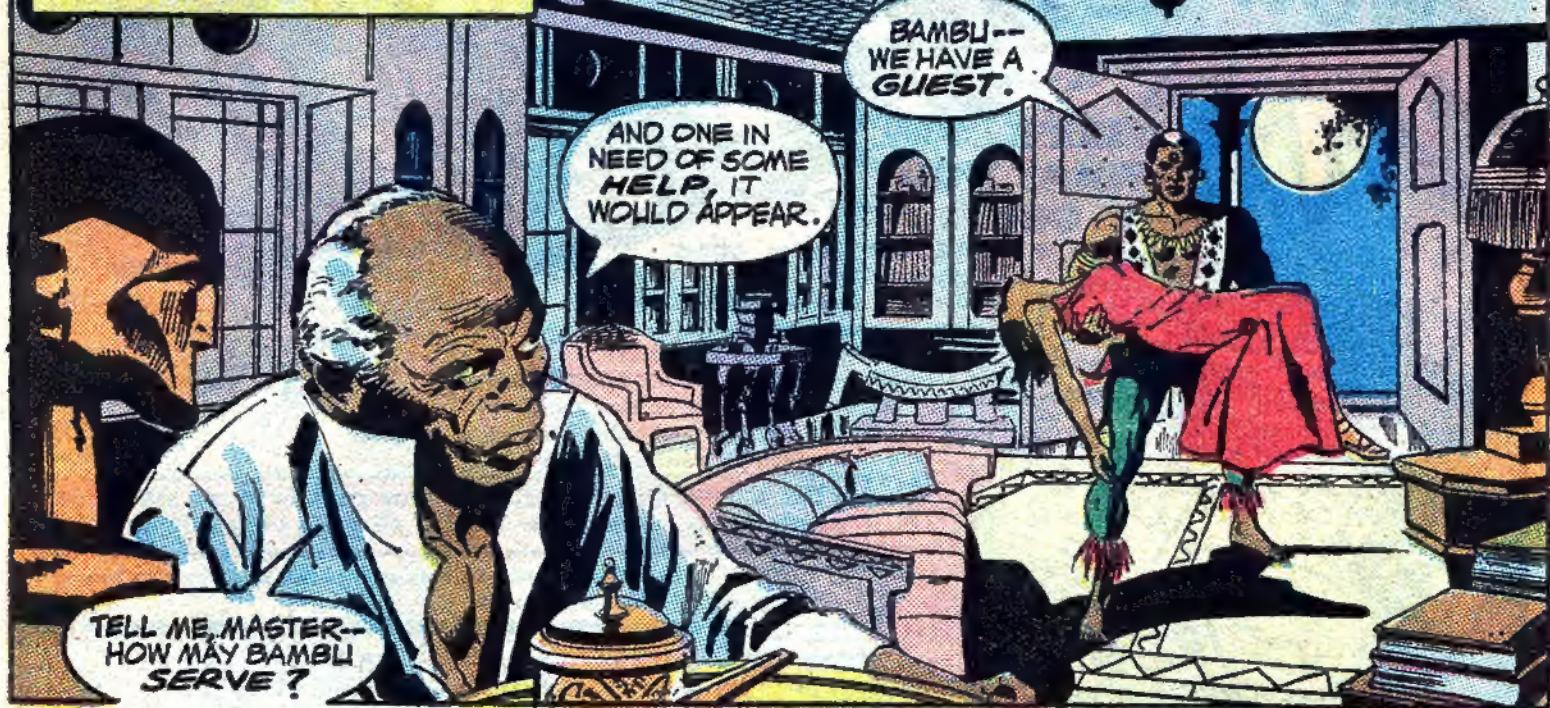
WONDER HOW  
SHE GOT INTO  
THIS IN THE  
FIRST PLACE?



EMBODIED BY GREAT SNARLED CYPRESS TREES, THE ANCIENT MANOR STANDS ALONE ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF NEW ORLEANS, KEPT TIDY BY A WHITE-HAIRED OLD MAN KNOWN ONLY AS BAMBU.

THE HOUSE AND THE OLD MAN ARE ALIKE IN MANY WAYS; TALL, PROUD, PATIENT, CONTENTED, ALWAYS TO WAIT UNTIL THEIR MASTER COMES HOME --

-AND TONIGHT, HE COMES MOST URGENTLY, SLAMMING OPEN THE OAKEN FRONT DOORS!



# WOW! 111 PC. COIN KIT

**HERE'S WHAT YOU GET...**

- 20 U.S. and Foreign COINS to start your hobby!
- 50 Coin Storage ENVELOPES to house your budding collection!
- 5 Pieces of GENUINE CURRENCY!
- 32-Page HOBBY & COIN BOOKLET featuring hundreds of different, exciting items!
- COIN CATALOG showing the prices paid for all valuable & scarce U.S. coins!

**ONLY \$2**

**PLUS A SURPRISE PACKET** that may contain more scarce or exotic items, perhaps even GOLD! All packed "Grab-Bag" style!

- 111 ITEMS IN ALL! Exciting start to this profit-making hobby. A lifetime of interest!

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Box 5177, Sherman Oaks, Calif. 91413  
RUSH me your 111-Piece COIN KIT. I enclose \$2 which is refundable if I am not completely satisfied:

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## I'LL MAKE YOU A MASTER OF KARATE

**KARATE**

Karate is the secret, Oriental art of self-defense that turns your hands, arms, legs into paralyzing weapons... without any bodily contact.

In just 2 hours after you receive "SUPER KARATE" you will be on your way to being an invincible Karate Master, at home, this fast, EASY way or it costs you nothing.

Wallace W. Schumann

Author of "SUPER KARATE", the world-famous authority on KARATE, is the ONLY Instructor in the Northeast U. S. recognized by the International Karate Federation in Tokyo.

I spent 3 years in Japan learning the little-known Oriental art of KARATE and was awarded the 6th degree black belt—symbol of the highest possible proficiency. Now I'm ready to show you every secret I learned—and I guarantee I'll make YOU into a KARATE Specialist within hours of getting what you paid for my information. It will be refunded if you don't have to attend either of my 2 schools to learn to turn them into KARATE experts. No. 1 can show you how to practice KARATE in the privacy of your own home with only a few minutes of practice each day. We've simplified all I know about KARATE into "SUPER KARATE"—profusely illustrated and clearly explained.

In this book I take you step-by-step through the fundamentals of KARATE so that you understand clearly and immediately these amazing principles: escape, defense, attack, etc. ANYONE you may encounter—no matter how big he is, or how much he weighs!

**MASTER EVERY SITUATION**

With KARATE you can disarm and disable two, three and even four attackers. You can apply a simple pressure of your thumb and finger against any one of a dozen vital nerve centers of your attacker's body, watch his gun or knife fall from his hand, etc., while he himself sinks to the ground completely helpless and faint.

In fact, a knowledge of KARATE will turn you into a NEW MAN even if you never actually have to use it! For you will become self-assured and

self-defense

100's of Illustrations

**only 99¢**

**GIANT LIFE-LIKE KARATE PRACTICE DUMMY**

**only 99¢**

INCLUDES ILLUSTRATED KARATE INSTRUCTION PROGRAM! Now you can speed up your knowledge of KARATE and become a champ more quickly than you ever thought possible! You can practice on your own personal KARATE PRACTICE DUMMY as though you actually had a live partner to work with. Amazingly life-like GIANT KARATE PRACTICE DUMMY shows clearly those vulnerable areas which should be attacked. Instantly you know WHERE to attack, with the easy-to-follow instructions included free with KARATE MODEL. Show you HOW to attack. You also learn the body's major vulnerable regions, the defense or on-guard position to take, and your body's personal weapons which you can use to deadly effect, such as fingers, hands, elbows, etc. Big numbers on DUMMY show you exact location of pressure points and weak spots which you can practice attacking. Order your own personal DUMMY and Illustrated KARATE Instructions now. Check coupon. Only 99¢ plus 36¢ for postage.

**SPECIAL MONEY-SAVING COMBINATION OFFER! \$1.98**

Order both the SUPER KARATE BOOK and LIFE-LIKE DUMMY for only \$1.98 postpaid and SAVE 52¢. Just check box in coupon below. We pay all postage. Great Britain 1£.

**MAIL MONEY-SAVING NO-RISK FREE TRIAL COUPON NOW!**

**PRECISE PUBLICATIONS, Dept. KA-15**  
Box 322, Lenox Hill Sta., N. Y., N. Y. 10021

Rush your special Combination money-saving package of SUPER KARATE BOOK and DUMMY. I enclose \$1.98 as payment in full. I save 52¢. Ship in plain wrapper. My friends and I must be delighted with my amazing new power or you refund my money in full.

Rush my copy of SUPER KARATE BOOK in plain wrap, for which I enclose 99¢ plus 36¢ for postage and handling (Total: \$1.35).

Rush my life-like Karate DUMMY in plain wrapper, for which I enclose 99¢ plus 36¢ for postage and handling (Total: \$1.35).

**NAME** \_\_\_\_\_  
**ADDRESS** \_\_\_\_\_  
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I understand that by studying KARATE I am morally bound not to inflict harm to practice KARATE as an aggressor (only to defend myself) and will never abuse it.

**TRUE BODY IS YOUR PROTECTION!**  
The result of hundreds of years of development in Japan, KARATE is the Oriental system of self-

**30 EAST 61ST STREET** **NEW YORK, N. Y. 10021**

# YOURS FREE



**BONUS**

Mail coupon for kit  
of 4 full-size Blair beauty  
products plus free sample  
of Upholstery  
and Rug Cleaner

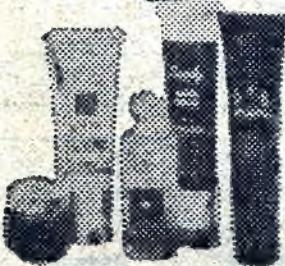
**FREE**

## GIFT OF GLAMOUR worth \$8.25

can be yours absolutely free.

Mail the coupon today and as soon as your request has been approved we'll send you your Gift of Glamour that includes:

Moisturized Hand Cream.....	\$1.00
Iced Cologne .....	\$3.00
Creme Sachet .....	\$3.00
Creme Hair Dress .....	\$1.25
Sample bottle Upholstery and Rug Cleaner.....	Free
Kit Value .....	\$8.25



Send in your first order in 30 days and keep all the contents of the kit. Or, return the kit and keep any two items plus the Upholstery and Rug Cleaner sample FREE as our gift to you.

These Blair Beauty Dealers make big  
money in just a few spare time hours a week...  
You can, too!

**Earns Money for New Wardrobe.**  
"Selling Blair Quality Products has given me a chance to buy pretty new clothes. This means very much to me. One week I sold \$102.00 worth of merchandise in only 3 afternoons."

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**Blair Products Sell Themselves.**  
"Blair Quality Products sell themselves once people use them. This makes it much easier for the dealer. My family uses Blair Products, too. Selling Blair Products has enabled me to meet new people, renew old friendships and earn extra spending money."

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**Blair Kit Makes It Easy to Take Orders.**  
"Before I started, I lacked confidence in myself. But with the big Blair kit it was so easy for me to take orders. I have earned so much... being able to serve and help other people gives me a fresh new outlook on life." Mary Mitchell, Ind.

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"My first order amounted to over \$70.00. I enjoy selling Blair products because it gives me extra money, real nice gifts and a chance to visit my friends and neighbors." Joan Dunn, Ga.

## Glamorous Iced Cologne and Creme Sachet worth \$6.00 yours free

Accept our Gift of Glamour free  
and discover how you can earn up to \$25-  
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We need imaginative women like you to represent Blair, a division of the Chap Stick Company. You don't need any experience. You don't have to make any investment.

We'll rush you our Gift of Glamour, featuring four famous Blair beauty aids, our beautiful new catalog, a free sample of Upholstery and Rug Cleaner, and everything else you need to start making extra money in your spare time. Once you receive your Blair Gift of Glamour you'll see why so many women, just like you, are now enjoying an exciting new career in their own Blair beauty and home products business. It's easy to make up to \$25, \$50 or more every week by introducing your friends, neighbors, and others to Blair's selection of cosmetics, fragrances, food products, health aids, home helpers and gift items.

You can earn up to 40% on your orders. Too, as a Blair Dealer you get your own beauty aids and home products at special discount prices.

### Mail the coupon today. Don't wait.

Mail the coupon below today. We'll send your Blair Gift of Glamour worth \$8.25. This kit features our Moisturized Hand Cream, Iced Cologne, Creme Sachet, Creme Hair Dress, and a sample bottle of Upholstery and Rug Cleaner. Value of this kit is \$8.25 and it's yours FREE when you send in your first order within 30 days.

Or, if you decide this is not the kind of career you've been waiting for you may return the kit to us. And, as a gift for letting us tell you about this opportunity you may keep any two items in the kit and the sample Cleaner absolutely FREE.

Mail the coupon today to  
Blair, Dept. 272AY, Lynchburg, Virginia 24503  
A Division of The Chap Stick Company

**BLAIR** Dept. 272AY  
Lynchburg, Va. 24503

Please Rush my Blair Gift of Glamour as soon as my request has been approved. I understand that the whole kit can be mine free if I send in my first order within 30 days. Or, I may keep any two items and the sample bottle of Upholstery and Rug Cleaner in the kit FREE and return the rest to you.

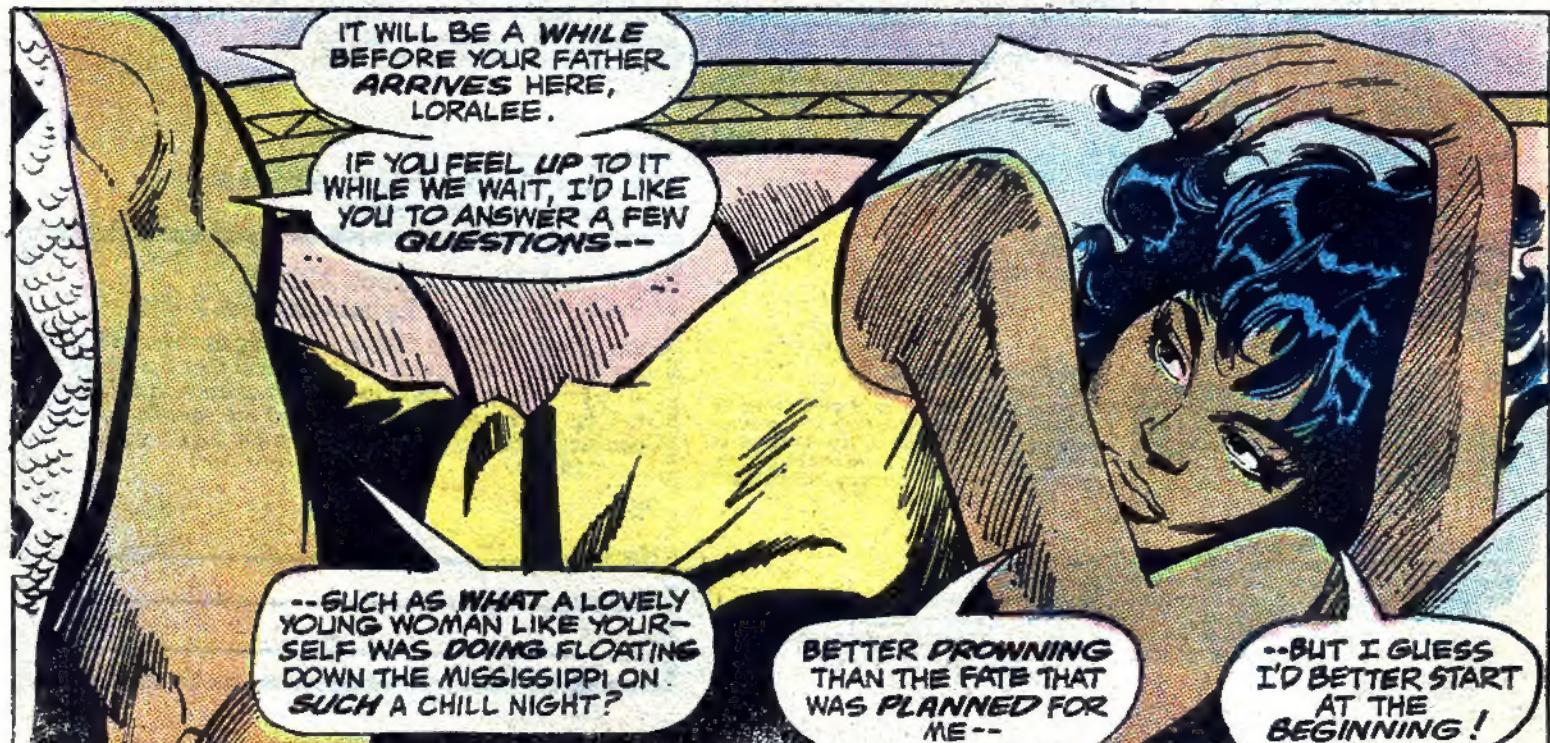
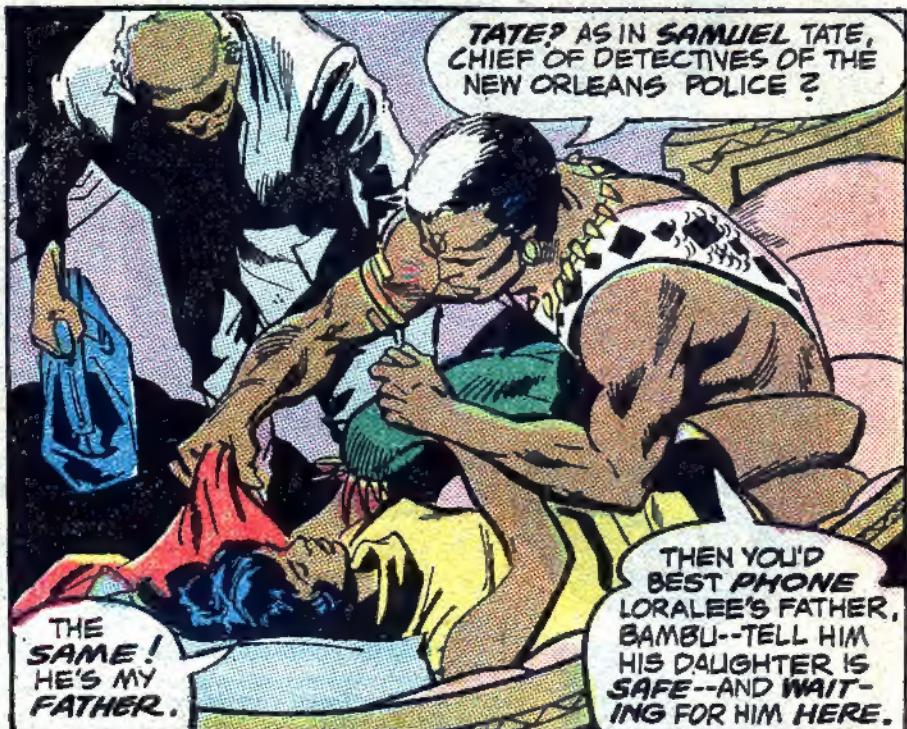
Print

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

420-1C-825



I'M A REGISTERED NURSE, WORKING THE MORNING SHIFT AT DELTA GENERAL HOSPITAL.

I'D BARELY GOTTEN HOME THIS AFTERNOON BEFORE I HEARD A PERSISTANT--

BULL

--AND THREW OPEN THE FRONT DOOR TO FIND--

YES? CAN I--?

ACME MESSENGER SERVICE, MA'AM.

GOT A SPECIAL DELIVERY PACKAGE HERE FOR A MS. LORALEE TATE?

"AND LIKE A FOOL, I ACCEPTED IT..."

"THERE WAS NO RETURN ADDRESS ON THE PACKAGE--NOTHING TO INDICATE WHO'D SENT IT--"

--AND, AS THE DAUGHTER OF A DETECTIVE, I GUESS THAT SHOULD HAVE MADE ME SUSPICIOUS--

"INSTEAD, IT MADE ME CURIOUS--AND I TORE OFF THE WRAPPING TO DISCOVER--"

--A ROOSTER, FEATHERS BLACK AS COAL, TALONS RAKING THE AIR.

"THE DARK LORD HAS CHOSEN YOU FOR HIS OWN!"

WH-WHAT IN HEAVEN'S NAME DOES THAT MEAN?

"THAT QUESTION REMAINED WITH ME EVEN AFTER I'D DISPOSED OF THE ROOSTER. IT GNAWED AT ME TILL LONG AFTER SUNDOWN--"

"THE BOX HAD CONTAINED ONLY A ROOSTER--AND A NOTE SCRABLED IN CRUDE BLOCK LETTERS..."

--BECAME SO IRRITATING I DECIDED TO TAKE A DRIVE ALONG THE RIVER TO CLEAR MY HEAD OF IT.

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Columbia Record/Tape Club (as advertised in <i>Oslo</i> Jan. '73)	<b>NO</b>	11 LPs/ 8 Tapes	\$54.81 to \$45.19	<b>YES</b> 5 to 6 weeks
Capitol Record/Tape Club (as advertised in <i>Seventeen</i> Nov. '72)	<b>NO</b>	12 LPs/ 10 Tapes	\$10.00 to \$94.63	<b>YES</b> 5 to 6 weeks
RCA Record/Tape Club (as advertised in <i>TV Guide</i> Aug. '72)	<b>NO</b>	12 LPs/ 12 Tapes	\$16.00 to \$160.00	<b>YES</b> 5 to 6 weeks
<b>Record Club of America</b>	<b>YES!</b>	<b>NONE!</b>	<b>ZERO DOLLARS!</b>	<b>NEVER!</b>
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TAKE ANY 6 LPs OR ANY 5 TAPES SHOWN HERE FOR JUST 99¢. Mail coupon with check or money order for low \$5 Lifetime Membership Fee, plus 99¢ for your recordings (the Club's standard mailing and handling fee will be sent later). Receive by return mail your LPs or Tapes PLUS incredible "Buy 1, Get 2 FREE" offer on 100's of Top Hit LPs and Tapes. NEW SUPER-DISCOUNT FREE OR DIVIDEND OFFER EVERY 21 DAYS! Absolutely NO OBLIGATION TO buy anything ever.

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FREE All-Label Lifetime Discount Membership Card, FREE Giant Master Discount Catalog of all readily available records and tapes, plus FREE subscriptions to Disc & Tape Guide magazine and the AWARHOUSE™ Catalog of hip products. MONEYBACK GUARANTEE IF ITEMS ARE RETURNED WITHIN 10 DAYS! Your order computer processed for EXPRESS SERVICE DELIVERY!

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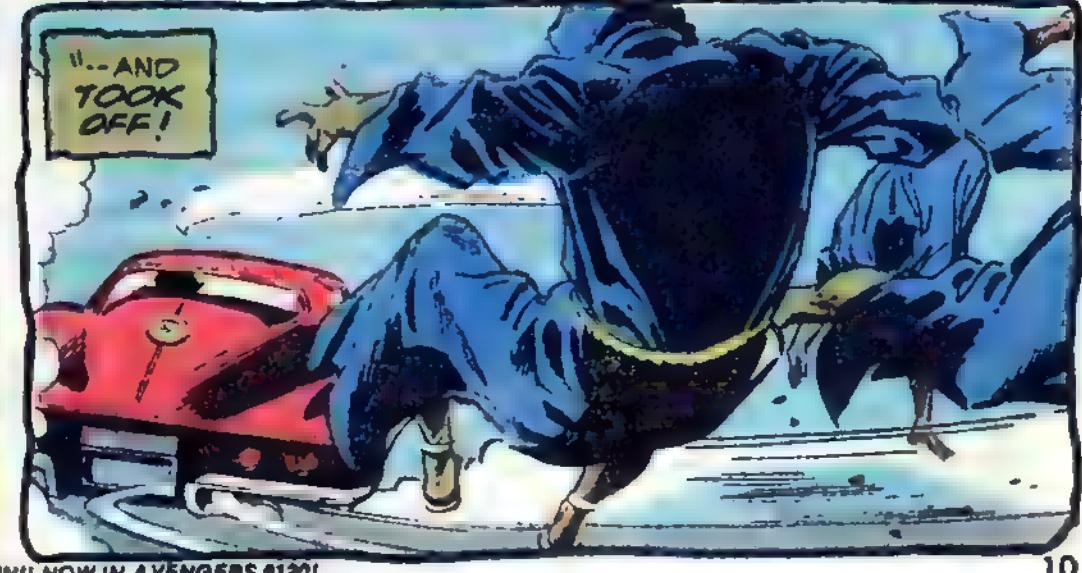
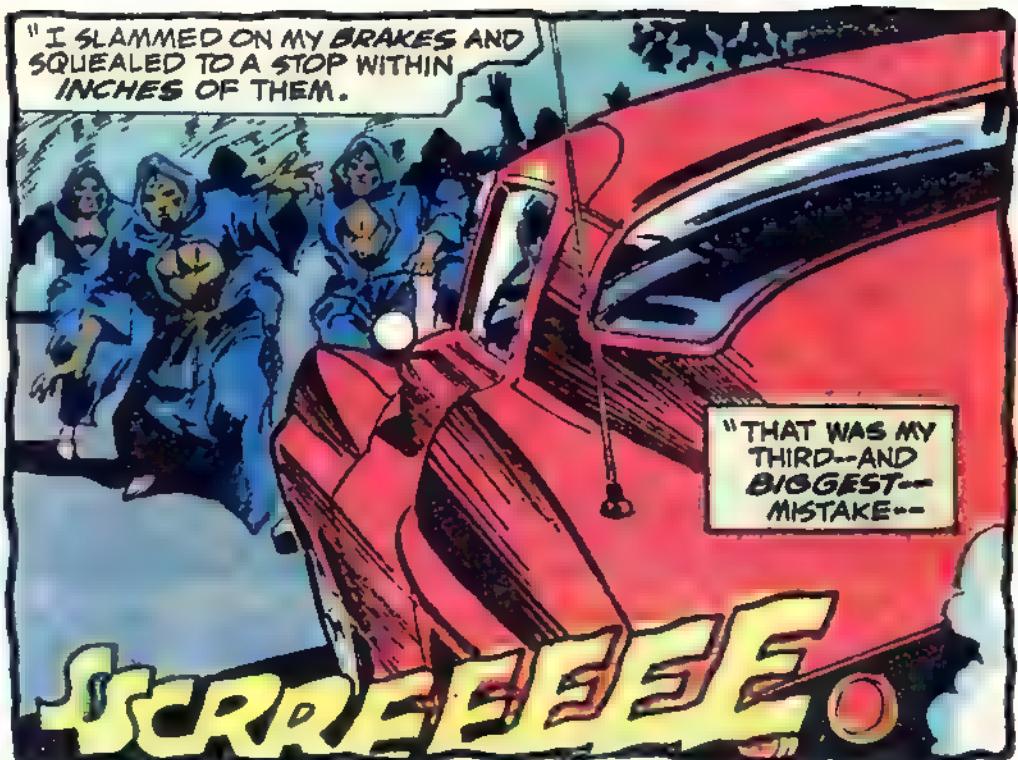
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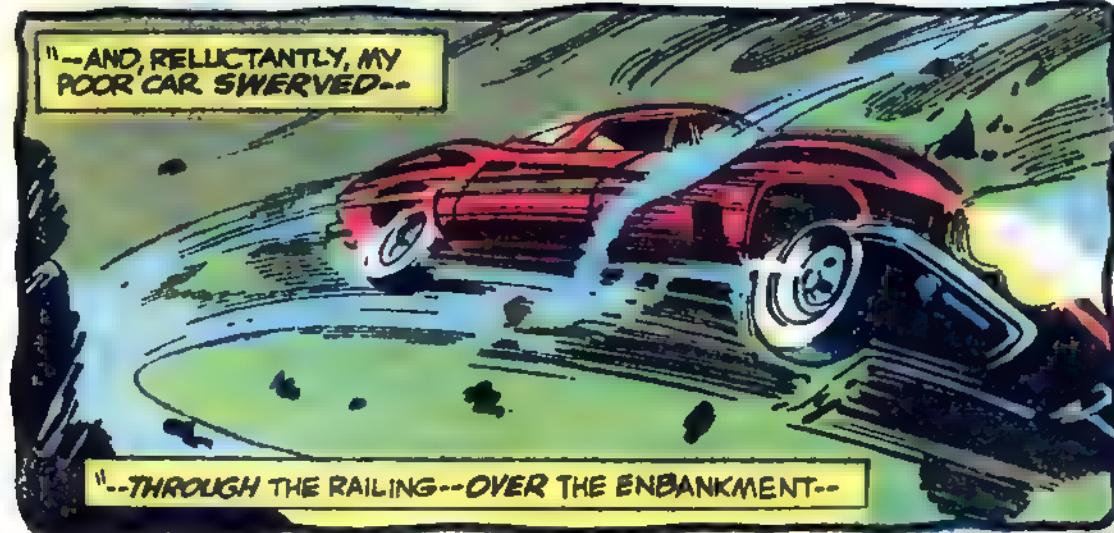
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# Strategy & Tactics



## The game... two versions.

Strategy & Tactics is a complex, two-player board game that requires the skill of both strategy and tactics, and can be played in many ways.

One version of the game requires two sets of pieces, one for each player. The other version requires only one set of pieces, which are shared by both players.

## What is Strategy? What is Tactics?

Strategy is the overall plan to win the game. It involves planning ahead, making moves that will affect the outcome of the game, and anticipating the moves of the other player. Tactics are the specific moves and actions taken to implement the strategy. They involve using the available resources, such as pieces, to gain an advantage over the other player.

## What's new?

Strategy & Tactics now includes a new edition of the game, featuring updated rules and pieces, and a revised playing surface, board game.

## The game... two versions.

In the original version of the game, each player has their own set of pieces.

In the other version, all pieces are shared.

In the first version, each player has their own set of pieces.

In the second version, all pieces are shared.

## What is Strategy? What is Tactics?

Strategy is the overall plan to win the game. It involves planning ahead, making moves that will affect the outcome of the game, and anticipating the moves of the other player. Tactics are the specific moves and actions taken to implement the strategy. They involve using the available resources, such as pieces, to gain an advantage over the other player.

The new version of the game features a new edition of the game, featuring updated rules and pieces, and a revised playing surface, board game.

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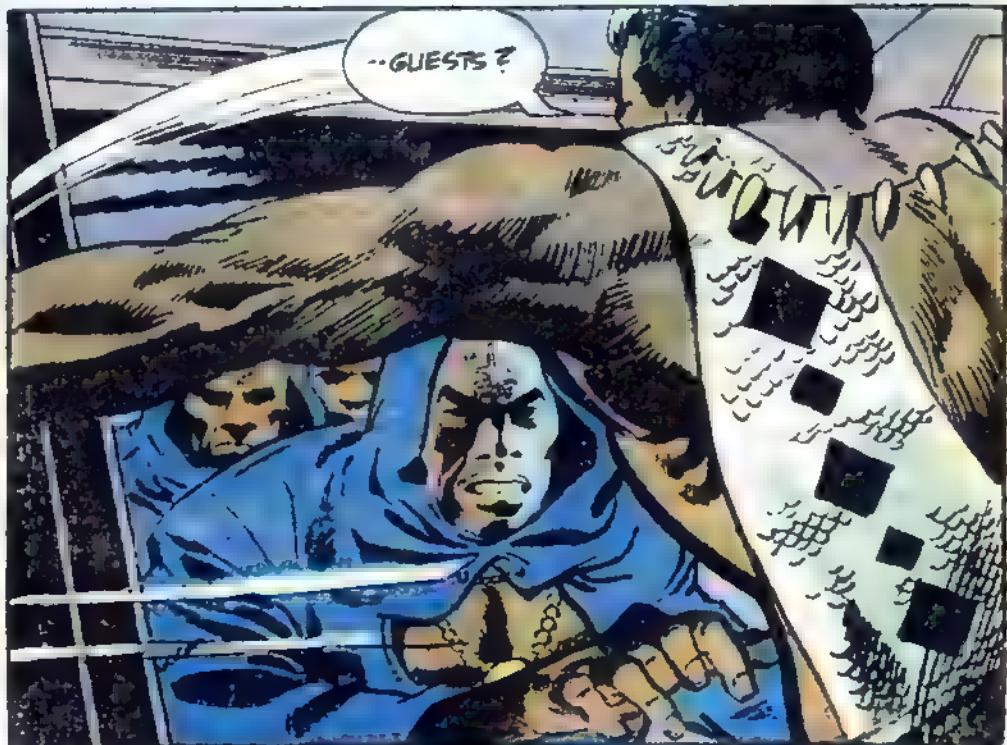
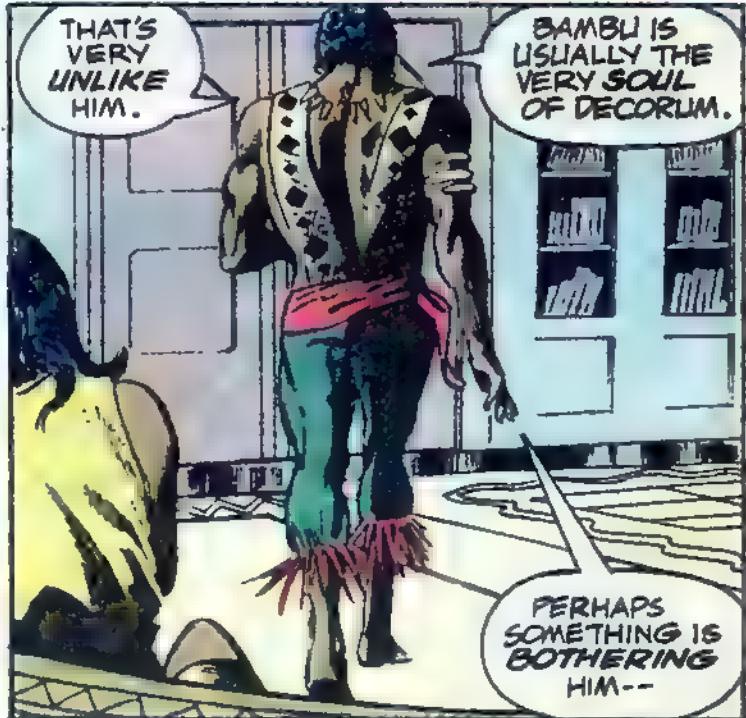
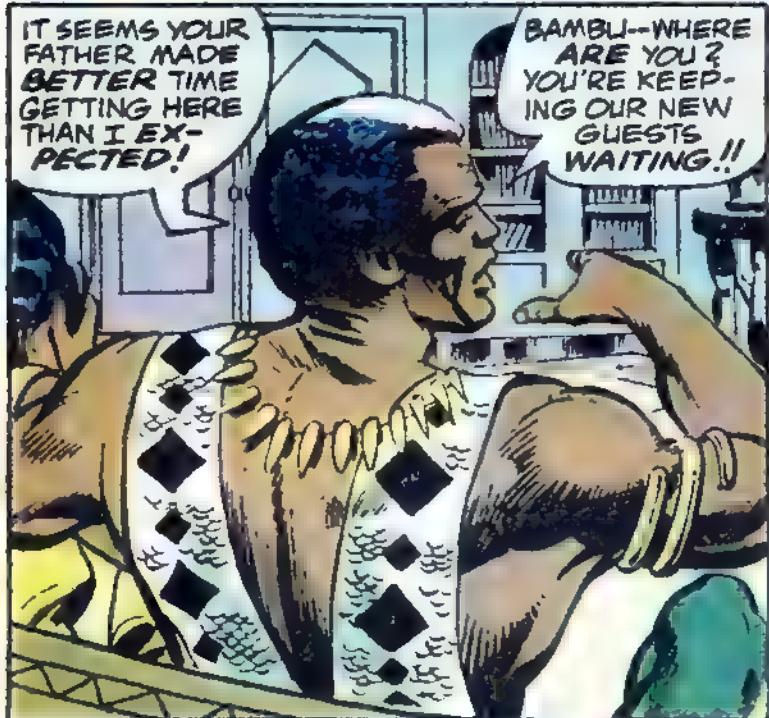
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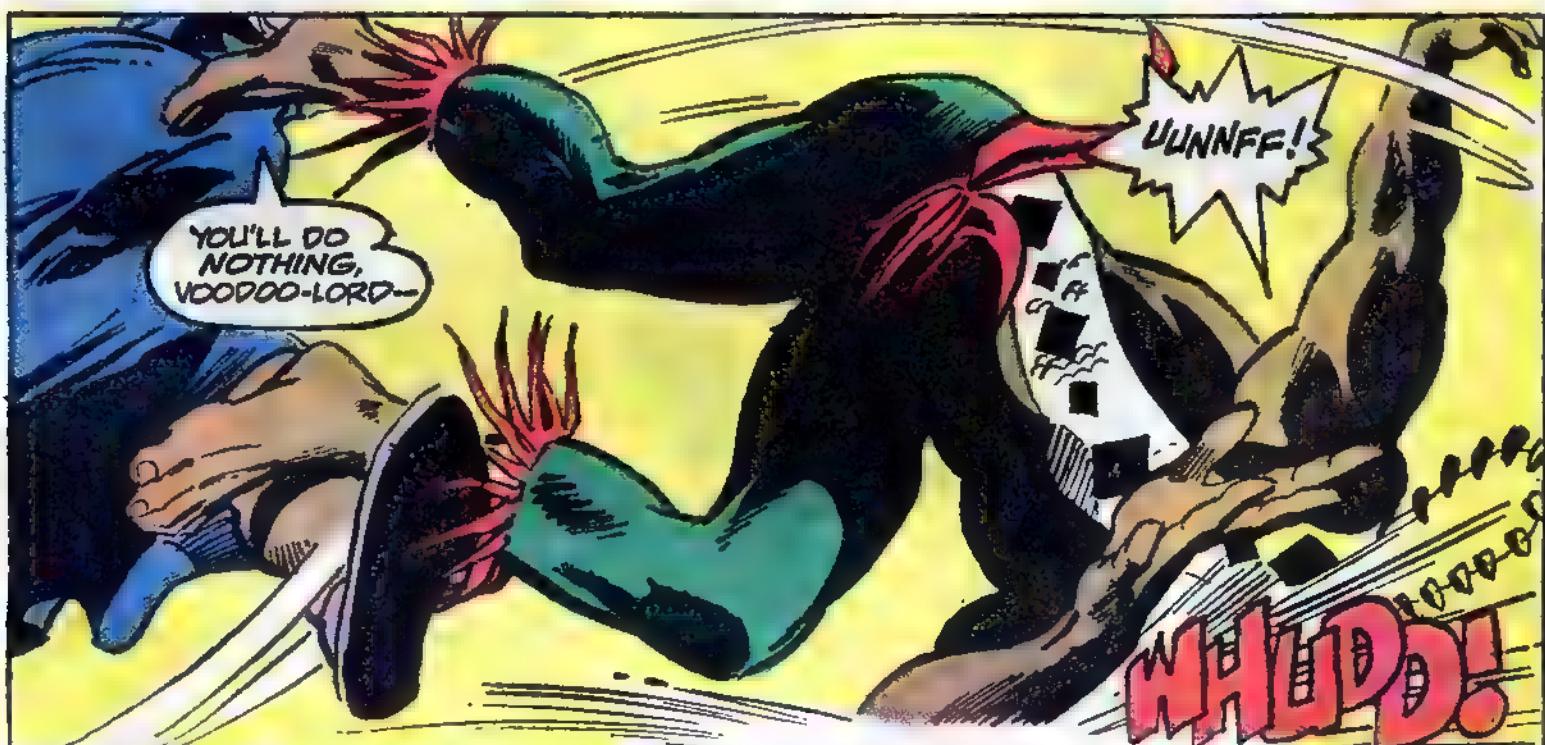
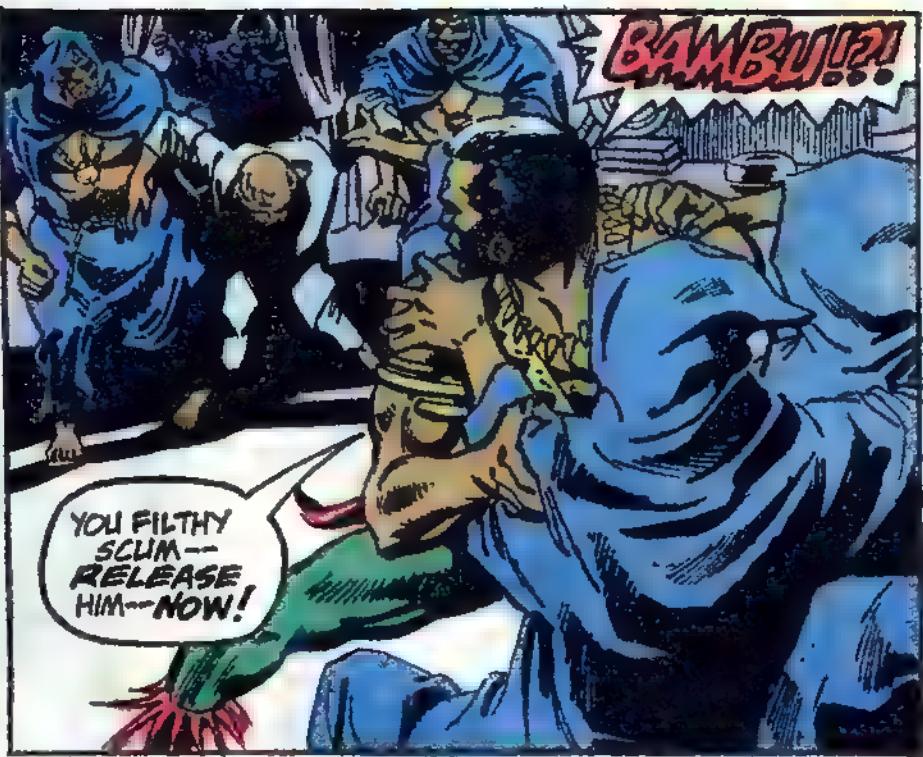
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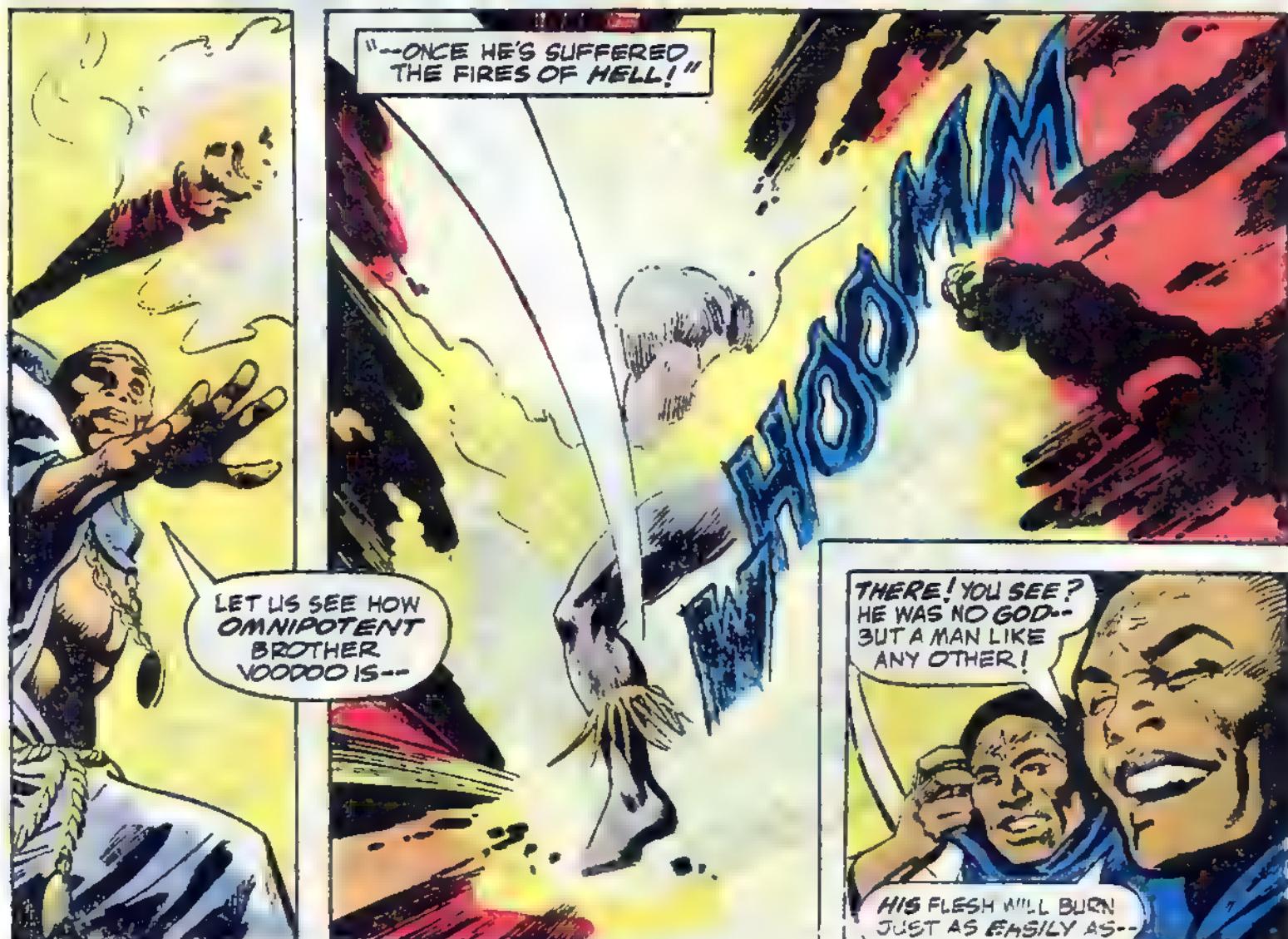
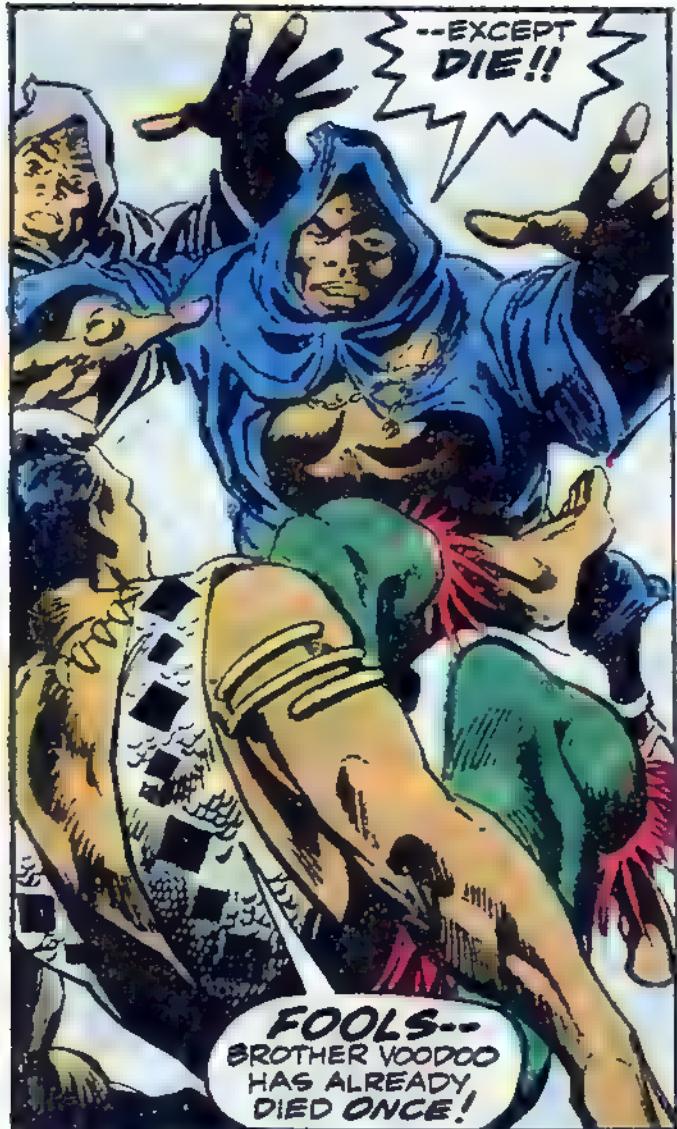
## What's new?

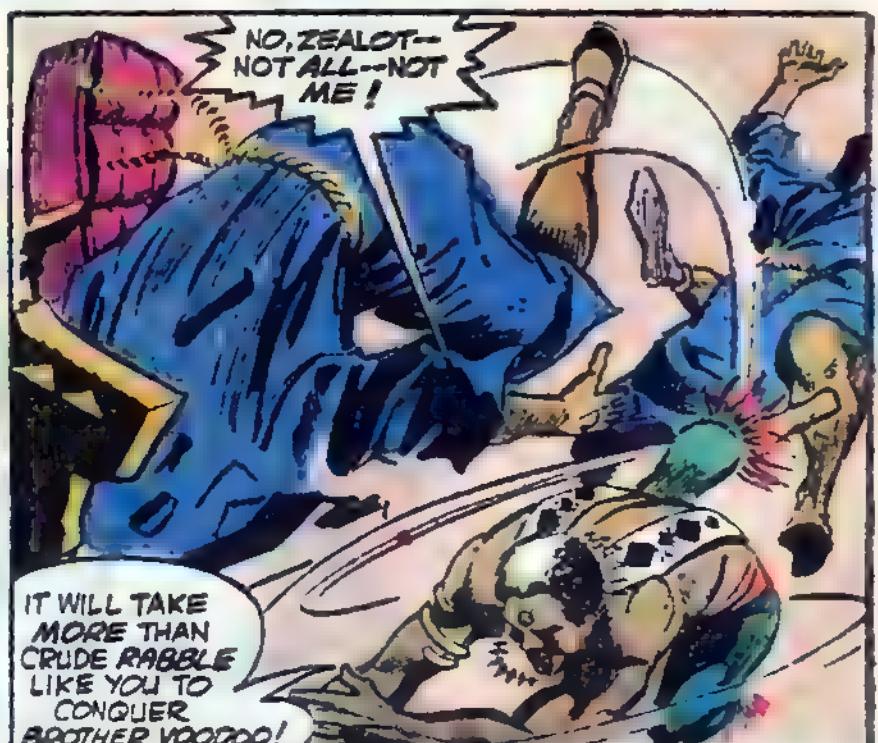
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I MAY TALK A GOOD FIGHT--  
BUT I'M GROSSLY OUT-  
NUMBERED--AND I  
KNOW IT!

BENEATH HIS BREATH, THE MASTER  
OF THE VOODOO BEGINS A CHANT  
THAT NONE SAVE HE MAY KNOW--

--AND, ALMOST AS IF IN  
ANSWER TO HIS CRYPTIC  
SUMMONS, A THICK  
SMOTHERING FOG BILLOWS  
AND SWIRLS TOWARDS  
BROTHER VOOODOO'S MUSTY  
OLD MANORHOUSE --

I MUST  
CONCEN-  
TRATE--  
CALL UPON THE  
LOA-SPRIT OF  
MY MURDERED  
BROTHER, DANIEL,  
TO HELP ME.

-THEN SEEPS INSIDE  
THRU THE CRACKS IN THE  
OAKEN FRONT DOOR.

NO, IT BRINGS ONLY DARKNESS--AND DEFEAT...

NO! PLEASE--  
NO!

COME,  
WOMAN--THE  
DARK LORD  
HAS CHOSEN  
YOU!

FOG--  
SWIRLING ABOUT  
MY HEAD --  
SUFFOCATING  
ME--!

CAN'T FIGHT  
IT--CAN'T  
BREATHE--

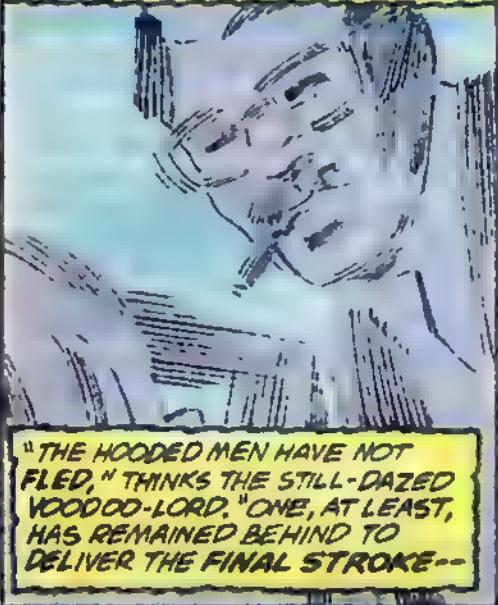
BUT IT DOES NOT BRING  
SALVATION, THIS STALE  
PULSATING MIST--

THE VOODOO-LORD SLUMPS TO THE FLOOR  
IN SILENCE.

HE DOES NOT SEE  
THE STRUGGLING  
GIRL HE RESCUED  
DRAGGED SCREAM-  
ING FROM THE HOUSE--

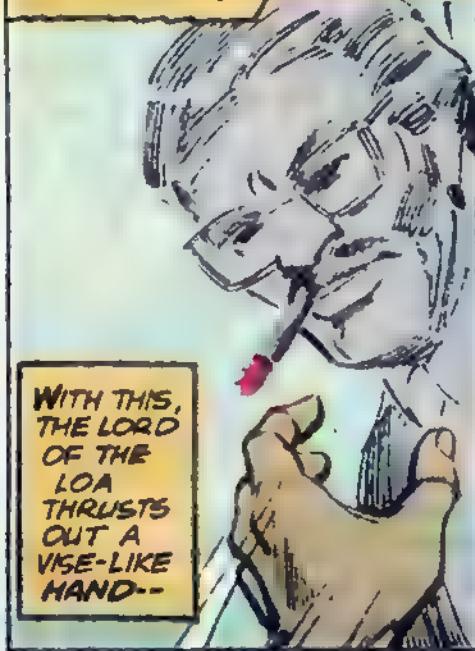
--NOR DOES HE  
HEAR THE SOUND  
OF MANIACAL  
LAUGHTER THAT  
FADES WITH THE  
DRIFTING FOG.

A BLUR--ONLY A BLUR AT FIRST, DARK MENACING--GREETS BROTHER VOODOO'S EYES AS HE RISES FROM THE DARKNESS...



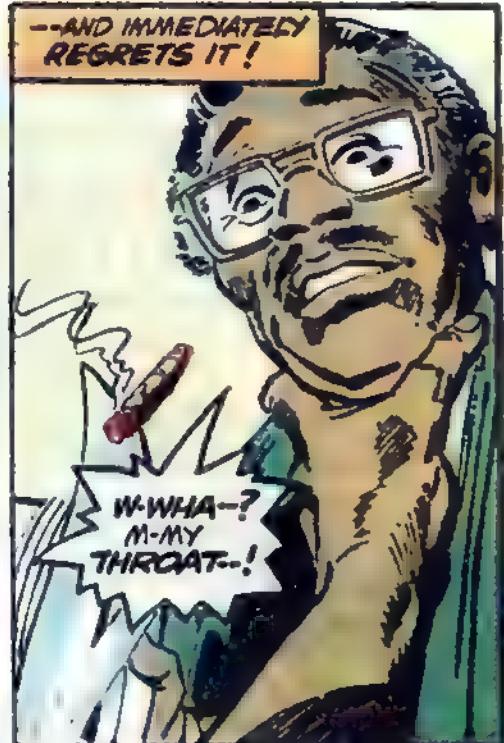
"THE HOODED MEN HAVE NOT FLED," THINKS THE STILL-DAZED VOODOO-LORD. "ONE, AT LEAST, HAS REMAINED BEHIND TO DELIVER THE FINAL STROKE--"

--BUT BROTHER VOODOO IS NOT YET READY TO SIT AT THE TABLE OF THE DEAD!"

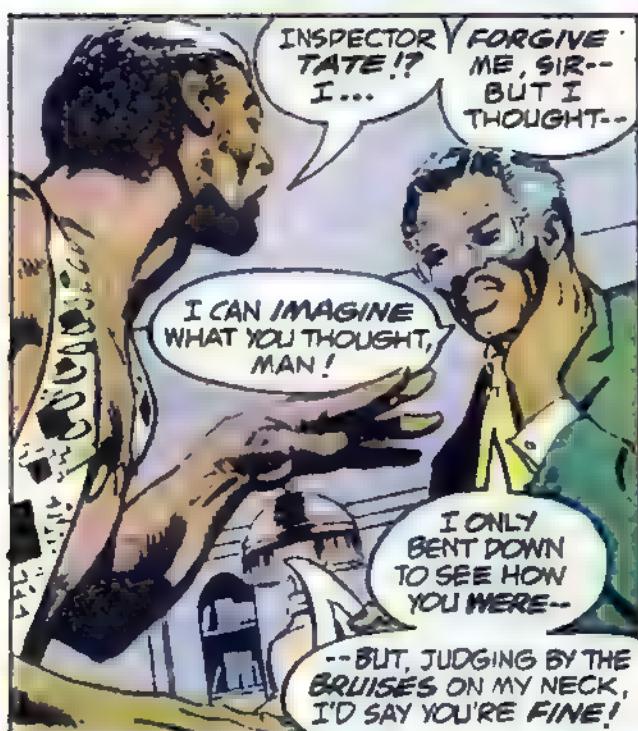


WITH THIS,  
THE LORD  
OF THE  
LOA  
THRUSTS  
OUT A  
VISE-LIKE  
HAND--

--AND IMMEDIATELY REGRETS IT!



W-WHA-?  
M-MY  
THROAT-!



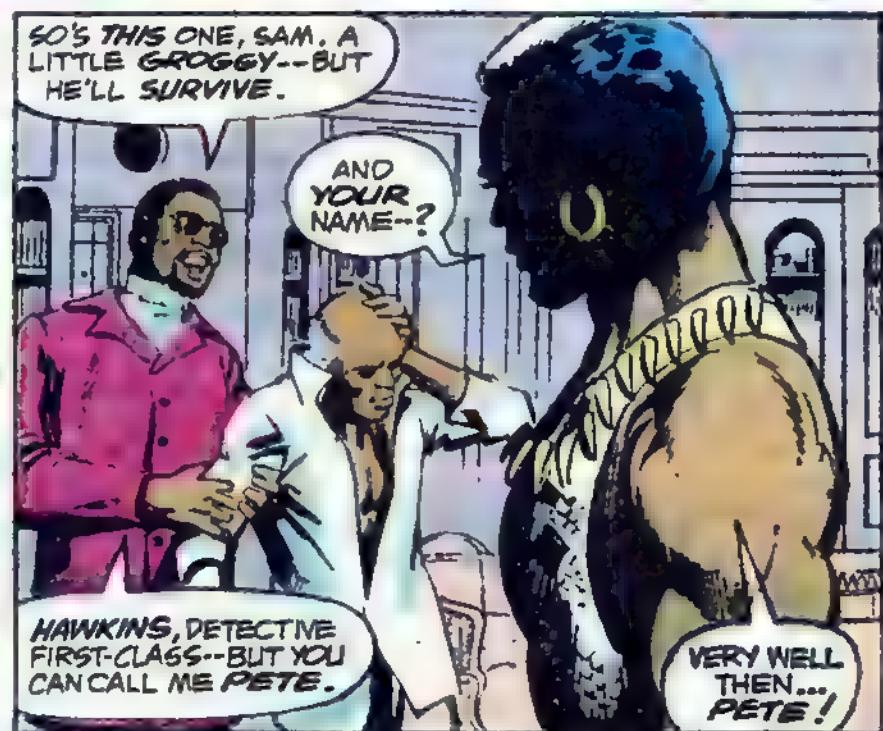
INSPECTOR TATE! FORGIVE ME, SIR-- I...

I CAN IMAGINE WHAT YOU THOUGHT, MAN!

I ONLY BENT DOWN TO SEE HOW YOU WERE--

--BUT, JUDGING BY THE BRUISES ON MY NECK, I'D SAY YOU'RE FINE!

SO'S THIS ONE, SAM. A LITTLE GROGGY--BUT HE'LL SURVIVE.



AND YOUR NAME--?

HAWKINS, DETECTIVE FIRST-CLASS--BUT YOU CAN CALL ME PETE.

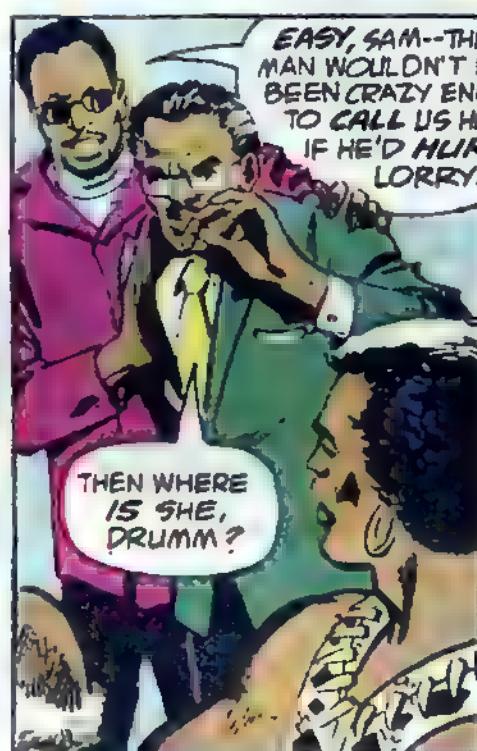
VERY WELL THEN... PETE!



ENOUGH INTRODUCTIONS.

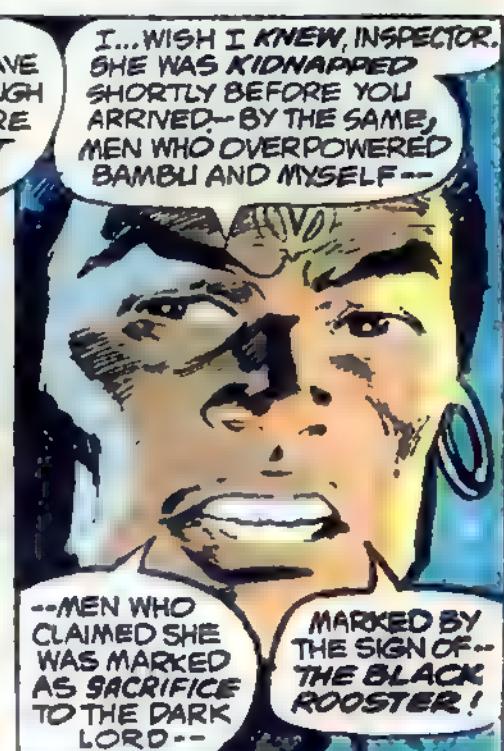
WE KNOW WHO YOU ARE, MISTER: JERICHO DRUMM, PSYCHOLOGIST-TURNED-VOODOO QUACK--

--AND I'M WARNING YOU NOW--IF YOU'VE DONE ANYTHING TO HURT MY LORALEE, I'LL...



THEN WHERE IS SHE, DRUMM?

EASY, SAM--THE MAN WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN CRAZY ENOUGH TO CALL US HERE IF HE'D HURT LORRY.



--MEN WHO CLAIMED SHE WAS MARKED AS SACRIFICE TO THE DARK LORD--

MARKED BY THE SIGN OF-- THE BLACK ROOSTER!

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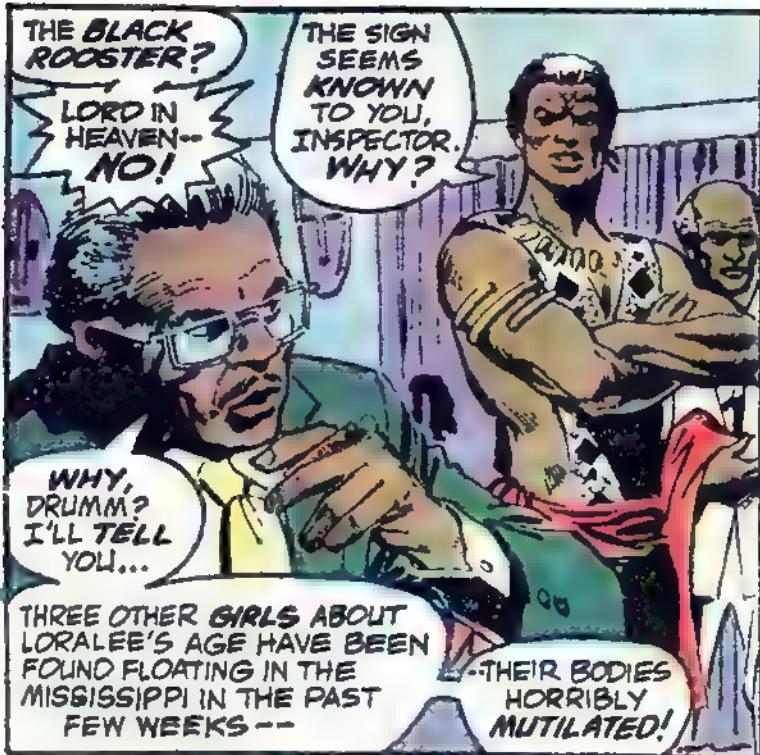
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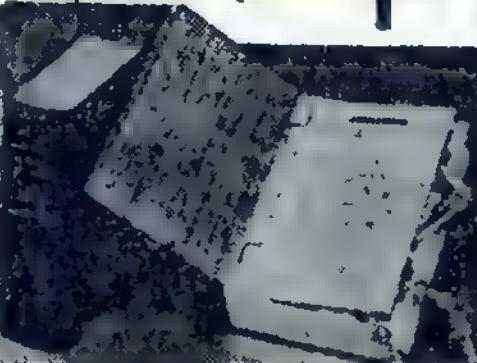
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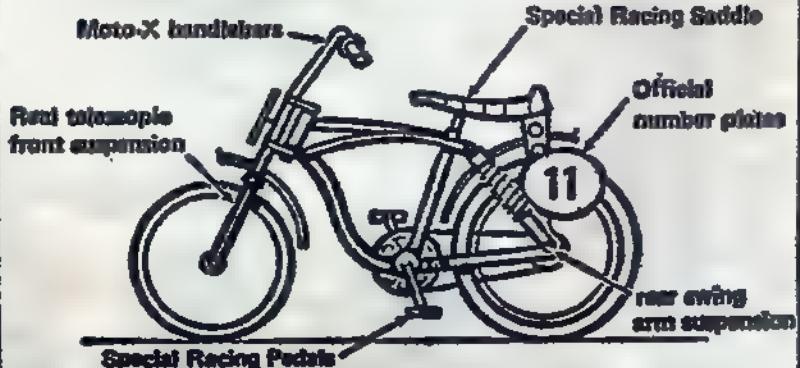
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# VOODOO!

THAT, GENTLEMEN, SUMMARIZES OUR REPORT FOR THE DEVON EXPORT-IMPORT COMPANY FOR THE SECOND QUARTER! WE'VE HAD A MOST SUCCESSFUL YEAR THUS FAR! AND NOW IF THERE ARE NO FURTHER QUESTIONS, WE'LL WIND UP THIS MEETING!

WHAT RIGHT HAVE YOU FIVE MEN TO BETTER JOBS? I WAS WITH THIS COMPANY FOR YEARS BEFORE YOU CAME HERE! YOU SNEAKED INTO THE TOP SPOTS WHILE I WAS IN THE BRANCH OFFICE IN HAITI! WHY WAS I PASSED OVER... WHY?



THE FEELING HE'D BEEN DONE AN INJUSTICE RANKLED WITHIN HIM, BUT CLAUDE CARVEL MANAGED A FRIENDLY SMILE TO CONCEAL HIS BITTERNESS ...

WELL, CARVEL--HOW DOES IT LOOK TO YOU?

OH, YOU GENTLE-MEN HAVE DONE WONDERS, MR. WEBB! IT GIVES ONE A FEELING OF SECURITY TO KNOW THE BUSINESS IS IN SUCH CAPABLE HANDS!

THE BUSINESS WON'T BE IN YOUR HANDS LONG! I HAVE WAYS OF SEEING TO THAT... VERY POWERFUL WAYS!

CLAUDE CARVEL  
Mgr.

IMPORT DIVISION

CLAUDE CARRIED ON BY DAY, AS IF NOTHING WERE WRONG AT THE COMPANY! BUT BY NIGHT, THERE WERE STRANGE HAPPENINGS IN THE ROOM OF A LARGE HOUSE HE HAD RENTED...

HOW CONVENIENT FOR ME HAVING YOUR PHOTOS TO COPY! VERY IMPORTANT MEN WITH YOUR FACES SMILING AT ALL THE EMPLOYEES FROM THE FRONT PAGE OF THE COMPANY NEWSPAPER!

THREE MORE FIGURES TO GO! THEN IT WILL BE MY FACE SMILING AT THE EMPLOYEES! AND THEY'LL SEE HOW A BIG COMPANY REALLY SHOULD BE RUN!

WITHIN A FEW WEEKS, ALL THE FIGURES WERE READY!

YOU WILL BE THE FIRST TO GO, GENERAL MANAGER MONTY DARROW! YOU WILL BE FIRST, AND I'LL TAKE YOUR PLACE AT THE TABLE, AND IN THE COMPANY, TOO!

CLAUDE CARVEL WHIRLED AND WEAVED IN A WILD VOODOO RITUAL DANCE! HIS FRENZIED CHANTING ECHOED THROUGH THE LONELY HOUSE...

A BAD MISTAKE YOU'LL MAKE, MONTY DARROW! THEN YOU'LL BE GONE AND I WILL TAKE YOUR PLACE!

THE NEXT MORNING AT THE EXECUTIVE OFFICES OF THE DEVON EXPORT- IMPORT COMPANY...

YOUR EXCUSES WON'T BRING BACK THE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS YOUR BLUNDER COST US, DARROW!  
YOU'RE THROUGH! PICK UP YOUR CHECK AT THE CASHIER'S WINDOW!

NEXT DAY, THERE WAS A MEETING OF COMPANY EXECUTIVES, AND CLAUDE SAW THE FULL FRUITION OF HIS VOODOO RITES...

YOU'RE AN EXPERIENCED MAN, CLAUDE! I DON'T THINK IT'S NECESSARY FOR ME TO WARN YOU TO BE CAREFUL!  
I'LL BE VERY CAREFUL, SIR!  
BE ASSURED, MR. WEBB, I WON'T MAKE ANY MISTAKES!

# PLAUDITS, PRONOUNCEMENTS, AND JUST PLAIN PLUGS — PONTIFICALLY PRESENTED!

## STAN LEE'S SOAPBOX

This one's for you older Marvelites, for the True Believers who've been with us so these many years. Remember how we used to rap about the fact that so many people thought comic-books were just for kids? And remember how I'd clue you in to Marvel's greatest crusade — to your Bullpen's vow to change that image — to give the comic-book its rightful place within the media — to have it fully accepted as one of the most powerful, most viable forms of communication the world has ever known? Remember how we'd pledge never to rest till the intellectual community bestowed upon the comic-book all the attention and the recognition it has so rightfully earned?

Well, I guess you know what I'm leading up to. We may not yet be all the way home, but we're mighty close. Never before have so many newspapermen, disc jockeys, college students, musicians, sports figures, and other assorted full-grown adult types been so fanatically tuned-in to the wondrous world of Marvel! Never before have we received such massive mountains of mail from so many campuses throughout the free-world! In fact, within the past few months alone, yours truly just finished a whirlwind college lecture tour, speaking at Iowa State, Bennington College, Allegheny, Montana State, the University of Delaware, and Northwestern U., just to name a few. Never have I seen more enthusiasm, more excitement, or more ebullient interest — interest in the stories, the illustrations, the conception — everything in fact that has to do with the production and the philosophy of your friendly neighborhood Marvel mags!

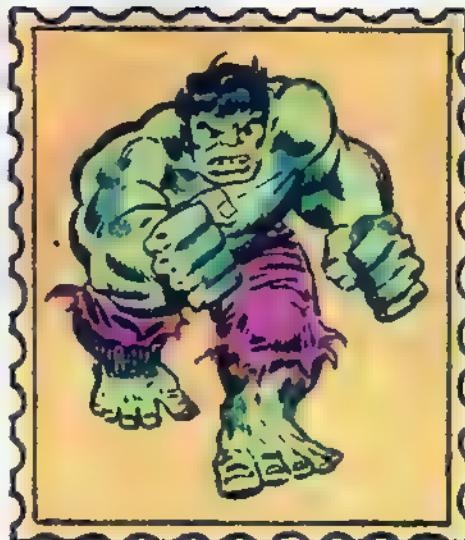
So, on behalf of your breathless, blushing' Bullpen, let me thank each and every one of you for helping us make a dream come true. Yea verily, you and we together have transformed yesterday's feckless little "funny books" into one of today's most widely-hailed art forms — and Marvel loves ya for it!

Excelsior!

P.S. Please spare our poor little overworked secretary. If there's any campus I may have bypassed, send your lecture request directly to American Program Bureau, 850 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill, Boston, Mass. 02167. They just love to open mail!

S.L.

ITEM! All right, sahib — it's teaser time! See if you can guess just what this thing is, smack dab in the middle of our bombastic Bulletin Page (besides a picture of the ever-incredible Hulk, that is) — and why we stuck it there, anyhow!



Sorry, we can't let the cat (or ol' Greenskin) out of the bag till next issue — but at that time, we promise you a zingier bargain than you ever saw on "Let's Make a Deal"! And while you're waiting, why not send us your guesses as to what it is! Who knows? Even if you don't figure out quite what we're planning to lay on you come Christmastime, you're just liable to give us some far-out new ideas we never thought of!

ITEM! Oh, and lest we forget: Here's this month's immortal message about an upcoming epochal event in one of our mags. It's in our very own Spider-Man Code, and it goes like this:

RQF ILFBSHFXY UJDTUF  
EFIRQ SO LIGXSVW — VSHDJP  
BSSJ DJ RQF QUXWI

By the way, in case you're wondering why we've been using Spidey Code for the past few months, it's because that's the only one revealed to date in the pages of our special FOOM Magazine, which is sent out as an extra bonus to everybody who joins the wildest, way-cutest fan club in comics history. But, more codes are coming up fast, 'cause even as we speak, jaunty JIM STERANKO is putting the finishing touches on our fourth fabulous issue.

If you're not yet a member of FOOM — why fool yourself? You're gonna join up sooner or later anyway, once the word gets back to you on what you're missing! Why not make it sooner — 'cause the way our ranks are filling up, there sure aren't gonna be any back issues of FOOM Magazine available for long! A word to the wise...!

ITEM! Starting next month: A full page of Bullpen Bulletins — plus a brand-new Bullpen Bonus Page, with nutty items about our giant 75¢ titles, eye-catching new FOOM ads and items — and just about anything else that catches our fancy! 'Nuff said!

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**FANTASTIC FOUR #143** (You demanded it — we did it! Dr. Doom strikes again!) — **SPIDER-MAN #129** (Meet the Jackal — and the deadly Punisher!) — **THOR #220** — **AVENGERS #120** (The return of Zodiac—the Sinister Team Supreme!) — **TOMB OF DRACULA #17** — **INCREDIBLE HULK #172** (And Canst Thou Slay — the Juggernaut?) — **CAPTAIN AMERICA & THE FALCON #170** — **POWER MAN #17** (Luke Cage — superhero for hire!) — **MAN-THING #2** — **IRON MAN #66** (Guest-starring the mighty Thor!) — **CONAN THE BARBARIAN #35** — **WEREWOLF BY NIGHT #14** — **MARVEL TEAM-UP #18** (Spidey and — wouldja believe — Mr. Fantastic!) — **SPECIAL MARVEL EDITION #17** (Shang Chi, Master of Kung Fu! Marvel's newest sensation!) — **GHOST RIDER #4** ("Death Stalks the Demolition Derby!") — **THE DEFENDERS #12** — **MARVEL SPOTLIGHT #14** (The Son of Satan, as you've never seen him before!) — **STRANGE TALES #172** — **ASTONISHING TALES #22** ("It — the Colossus Lives Again!").

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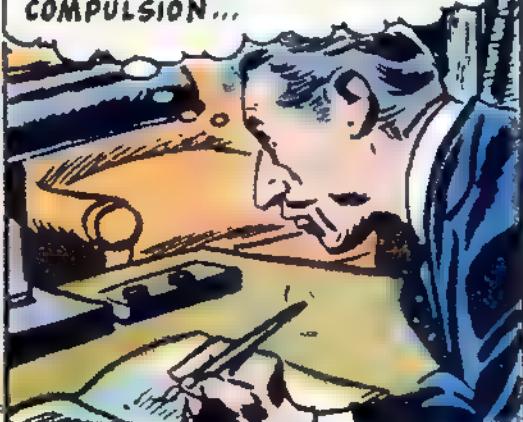
IN NIGHTS THAT FOLLOWED, CLAUDE'S VOODOO RITES CONTINUED! COMPANY SECRETARY HAROLD WADLEY HAD NOW BEEN REPLACED BY THE EVIL PRACTITIONER OF BLACK MAGIC! NOW IT WAS THE TREASURER'S TURN...

TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS YOU WILL TAKE, ED LAWSON! TEN THOUSAND FROM THE COMPANY SAFE!



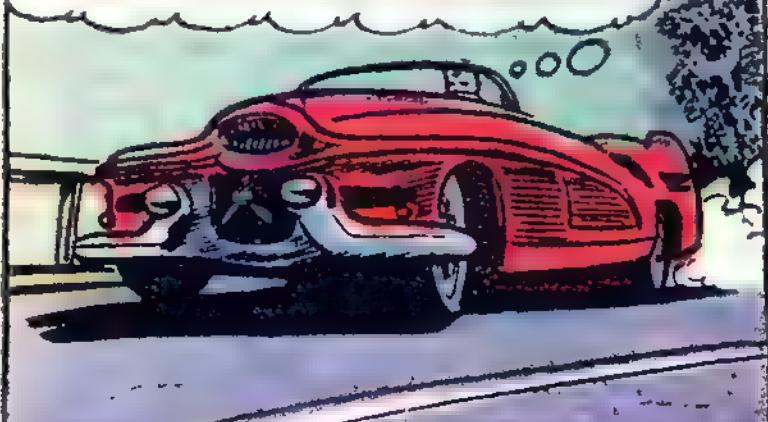
SEVERAL MILES AWAY, CLAUDE'S EVIL VOODOO CHANT REACHED INTO THE SUBCONSCIOUS OF DEVON TREASURER ED LAWSON...

WHY AM I DOING THIS? WHY DID I SNEAK INTO THE OFFICE AND STEAL THAT MONEY? AND WHY AM I FALSIFYING THE ACCOUNTS? I'VE NEVER DONE A DISHONEST THING BEFORE... BUT I FEEL SOME COMPULSION...



CLAUDE HAD PUT A DOWN PAYMENT ON THE BIG HOUSE HE LIVED IN! HE HAD BOUGHT A FINE CAR! BUT HE CONTINUED TO BE CAUTIOUS...

I'LL LET A FEW MORE MONTHS GO BY, BEFORE I GET RID OF HAROLD WEBB HIMSELF! WHEN I STEP INTO HIS SHOES IT WILL MEAN A SALARY OF ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY THOUSAND A YEAR! I'LL FINALLY BE WHERE I DESERVE TO BE AFTER ALL THESE YEARS WITH THE COMPANY!



"WHAT? YOU MEAN YOU'RE THE ONE WHO STILL HASN'T JOINED FOOM?"

THE RECORDS YOU WILL FALSIFY, TREASURER ED LAWSON... AS I MAKE YOUR IMAGE DO TONIGHT! THEN YOU'LL BE GONE AND I WILL TAKE YOUR PLACE!



IT WAS SEVERAL DAYS BEFORE AUDITORS CHECKED ACCOUNTS AND FOUND OUT THAT ED LAWSON WAS A THIEF...

HAVE ALL YOU MEN GONE MAD? YOU WERE GETTING THIRTY-FIVE THOUSAND A YEAR, LAWSON, ENOUGH FOR ANY MAN! BUT YOU HAD TO STEAL! I OUGHT TO SEND YOU TO PRISON, BUT YOU WERE ONCE MY FRIEND! YOU WILL RETURN THE MONEY, AND THEN LEAVE THE COMPANY!



CLAUDE WAITED A MONTH BEFORE ELIMINATING COMPANY VICE-PRESIDENT, DAVID ATKINS WITH HIS VOODOO MAGIC! WITH A SALARY OF \$ 50,000 A YEAR, CLAUDE CARVEL BEGAN TO LIVE HIGH...

NOW I HAVE ONLY A COOK AND A MAID AND YOU, JENKINS! LATER, I WILL ENLARGE THE STAFF! IT'S BETTER I CHARGE YOU WITH RESPONSIBILITY FOR THEIR SERVICE! ABOVE ALL, YOU WILL REMEMBER TO ALLOW NO ONE IN THE LOCKED ROOM UPSTAIRS!



BUT HOW COULD CLAUDE HAVE ANTICIPATED HIS BUTLER'S NEGLECT! IT WAS A MONTH LATER! JENKINS HAD FORGOTTEN TO TELL A NEW UPSTAIRS MAID ABOUT THE FORBIDDEN ROOM...

OF ALL THE WOODEN MEN TO SPILL INK ON... MR. CARVEL HIMSELF! IT'LL MEAN MY JOB UNLESS I HIDE MR. CARVEL'S WOOD STATUE IN THE CLOSET! MAYBE NOBODY WILL NOTICE!



EVEN AS THE MAID CLOSED THE DOOR OF THE CLOSET ON CLAUDE'S WOODEN IMAGE, THE HEAVY DOOR OF THE OFFICE SAFE SWUNG SHUT ON HIM!

WHO CLOSED THAT DOOR? NOBODY WAS IN THE OFFICE... SAFE DOOR WORKS AUTOMATICALLY! FRIDAY NIGHT... NOBODY COMING IN TILL MONDAY! I'M TRAPPED!



BUT CLAUDE WAS NOT DESTINED TO PERISH IN THAT SAFE, FOR NEXT MORNING...

B-BUT NOBODY SAID NOTHIN' ABOUT NOT COMIN' IN THIS ROOM! AND IF THE INK BOTTLE HADN'T BEEN OPEN, NONE OF THE INK WOULD'VE SPILT!

OH, STOP

YOUR WHINING,  
IMOGENE! TELL  
ME IN WHICH

CHAIR THIS  
THING BELONGS  
IN! LUCKY FOR YOU

I NOTICED THE DOOR  
AJAR, BEFORE MR.  
CARVEL GOT HOME!



THERE IS A MOMENT OF CHAOS THEN--WHEN ALL TIME SEEMS TO COME APART AND REARRANGE ITSELF. AND WHEN THAT MOMENT PASSES...

CLAUDE! WHAT HAPPENED? GOOD GRIEF, HE MUST HAVE FAINTED WHILE PUTTING THE BOOKS AWAY LAST NIGHT!



CLAUDE!  
WAKE UP!

WHO... WHAT... WHERE AM I?  
WHERE'S MY BUTLER? THE MAID?  
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?



I'VE CALLED A SPECIAL BOARD MEETING THIS MORNING, TO DISCUSS YOUR PROMOTION, CLAUDE! DARROW, WADLEY, LAWSON, AND ATKINS ARE WAITING OUTSIDE!

DARROW...  
WADLEY...?  
BUT...



GREAT HEAVENS! I MUST HAVE DREAMED IT ALL! BUT HOW COULD I POSSIBLY HAVE IMAGINED SUCH A HORRIBLE WAY TO GET AHEAD? I'D NEVER DO THINGS LIKE THAT! BESIDES, EVERYONE KNOWS THAT VOODOOISM IS JUST A LOT OF NONSENSE!



BUT... YOU WERE SAYING SOMETHING ABOUT A PROMOTION MR. WEBB?

YES, SIR!  
STEP RIGHT THIS WAY,  
MR. SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT!



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BUT THE SAME MAGNIFICENT MARVEL MAGIC!

THE  
**FIRST**  
AND STILL THE  
**GREATEST**  
**BLACK**  
**SUPERHERO**  
**OF ALL!**

LOOK OUT!  
HERE HE  
COMES--AND  
**BULLETS**  
**WON'T**  
**STOP HIM!**

GUEST-STARRING:  
THE ARMORED MIGHT OF  
**IRON MAN!**

IMPORTANT MESSAGE!  
THIS ISSUE GOES ON  
SALE NOV. 6, 1973!  
RESERVE YOUR COPY  
TODAY!

POWER-MAN 17  
20c FEB 02149

MARVEL COMICS GROUP

LUKE CAGE,  
**POWER MAN**



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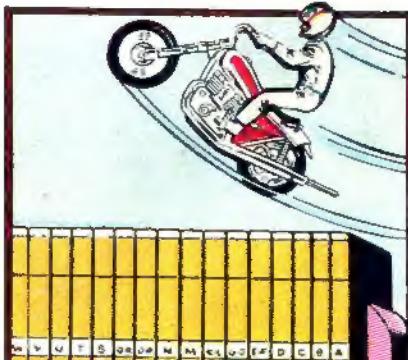


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MORE  
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